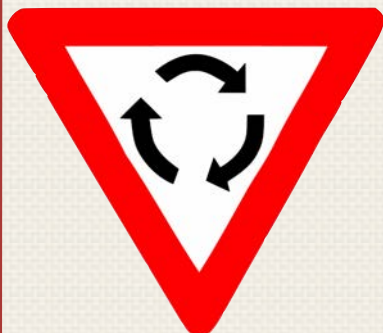




From The Headmaster's Desk

The New School Entry

I want to take this opportunity of thanking the School community for your patience in the construction of the roundabout at the entry to the School. You no doubt have seen that the eastern wall has been rebuilt and plans are being prepared now for the



landscaping around the walls. The restoration of the motorised gates is also on track as are other works associated with the new entry.

The real disruption to Cobbitty Road outside the School will commence in the day or so following Speech and Awards Night and if you come to the School anytime between then and mid January you will find temporary access available only. I would like to thank the contractors TRN for working so closely with the School and taking our needs into account as they have project managed a difficult scope of works considering the School's needs.

I would also like to thank the developers of Harrington Grove East that will be directly to the south of the School entry. Once again their willingness to involve the School in the discussions and plans around the roundabout have been very much appreciated.

Once the roundabout is completed and the transport infrastructure complete, the

School for the first time in its history will have pathway access to the School. At this stage it looks unlikely that the RMS will permit a dedicated pedestrian crossing at the School entry, there will certainly be pedestrian refuge islands and the like.

While there has been some disruption I trust that the end result will be a vast improvement for traffic flow into and out of the School.

This evening the HSC cohort have their Graduation Dinner. This is always a wonderful night with students and their parents as we celebrate their hard work over the years, wish them well and pray for them as they move out of the School into a wide range of pursuits. Please join with me in upholding our HSC cohort in prayer, that they might find the right path for themselves and that they will never lose sight of our encouragement to them to "Go out to Serve".

Speech and Awards Night is not far away and is the pinnacle event within our School continuity each year. All students in the Middle School and Senior School attend this evening and I trust that many parents will be able to come and celebrate the achievements of this past year. Junior School parents have the Awards assembly and the T-2 Christmas concert to look forward to and I have no doubt these will be excellent events again in 2014.

From the Deputy Headmaster

It is so natural when we miss out on a job for which we apply, or a sporting team we try out for, or an audition in which we fail to make the cut to ask ourselves, 'Why didn't they like me?' or 'What's wrong with me? Or 'Why could they not see my talent?' In truth, such questions often reveal how self-absorbed we are and how, with our focus on ourselves, we fail to see the bigger picture of life.

On the recent Music and Drama tour to the USA our students were privileged to learn some valuable lessons from a Broadway actor and a Broadway director about the entertainment industry, which I believe can be applied to much of life. And the key lesson is...it is not all about you! In work situations, in sporting teams and in casts for plays and musicals, those employing, directing or coaching are usually trying to build teams and there is a bigger picture at play.

The Broadway actor and Broadway director we were privileged to meet were both highly talented individuals. Their message to the students was to expect many, many, many more knock backs than callbacks and to understand that the knock backs were more often about things outside of their control and not about their talent. For example, they could be too old, too young, too tall or too short for a role. They might not have the 'right look' or 'voice' to suit the rest of the cast.

Certain personalities don't work well together but may bring great strengths in other situations. In other words it is not all about us personally. The most qualified may not be the best suited in a particular situation. Both men when searching for acting roles could experience as many as thirty knock backs before landing a part...and their view was, it was the pain was all worth it!!!

So it is when the Headmaster is choosing School Captains and Vice-Captains. In truth, in any year there are probably three to five students who could fulfil the Captain's role admirably, and any one of them could qualify for one of the three positions available...but some will form a better team than others. This does not diminish those who miss out. Their talents and skills remain and will no doubt be more suited in a different context

with different personalities. I note for example that our State Premier Mike Baird didn't make the cut for Prefect in his school, but he was clearly seen as the natural successor in the Liberal Party when Premier Barry O'Farrell resigned. Different contexts and different mixes of people play to our different strengths.

When I was at school my Mathematics teacher would say, "Success is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration." In other words, persistence, resilience and hard work are the keys to much of life's successes. The quicker we realise that the knock backs are not always about us or our talents the more resolved we will be to persist and try again. And if we have a more fulsome perspective on why we might have missed out, our bruised egos will heal quickly.

What our student's learned from these two men from Broadway was a life lesson applicable to all of life. It's Certainly a lesson I wish I had been taught at high school.

Andrew Kokic

Uniform Shop Hours During Vacation

Last day of trading for 2014 will be Monday 8 December.

Shop will re-open as follows:

Monday 12 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Wednesday 14 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Thursday 15 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Monday 19 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Tuesday 20 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Wednesday 21 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Thursday 22 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Friday 23 January - 9.00am to 3.00pm
Wednesday 28 January - 8.15am to 2.45pm
Thursday 29 January - 8.15am to 2.45pm

From the Dean of Studies

Reports T-6

At the end of the term, reports for students in Transition to Year 6 will be sent home. These indicate student achievement in all of their subjects and, importantly, also demonstrate student effort. This latter indicator is more valuable in assessing progress and forecasting future academic growth. Research has shown that students who apply themselves readily and embrace learning fully are far more likely to achieve academic success in secondary school than those who do not. While it is important to track academic progress by reviewing grades, parents need to be aware that a student's conceptual development may vary at different stages of learning. So a student who was achieving 'A' grades for reading and writing in Kindergarten may not be able to maintain that in Year 1 but may again reach that level in Year 2. It is also important to be aware that the quartiles are only an indicator of where a particular student is in relation to the rest of their grade. At Macarthur, external testing has consistently shown that our students are above average. Thus being in the second quartile of a class at Macarthur may be the same as being in the first quartile at another school. Parents should not be overly concerned with students moving from a higher quartile to a lower quartile. Of course, class teachers and the Head of Junior School and Head of Middle School are always available to assist parents with any queries about reports.

Reports 7-11

Parents would now have had time to digest the reports of students in Years 7-11. Heads of House, Heads of School and I have also evaluated these reports as part of our ongoing academic tracking. We have identified students who are underachieving or whose grade point average has significantly dropped and we will be following up with these students to determine any underlying issues related to this. Students who did not perform well in a number of examinations have also been identified and these students will be interviewed to determine the reasons for this. For some students examinations are very stressful and under-

performance may be related to nerves. For others, though, it may be a result of being under-prepared for the examinations or having a problem with misinterpreting questions or possibly issues with time management. We are also encouraging students to monitor their own academic performance and be aware of their strengths as well as their weaknesses in order to help them develop positive study habits. We have found that students who are positive and confident about their ability to learn will generally perform better.

T-6 Classes for 2015

Parents are sometimes anxious about the composition of their child's class. The Heads of School, informed by class teachers and other relevant staff, carefully consider a range of factors when making up these classes. The Year 5 and 6 GATEway class is also determined by a range of academic information including external testing results, assignments and other assessment tasks and class performance. Students need to be able to work in a fast-paced learning environment and be able to readily apply their learning to a wide range of contexts. They need to be capable readers and competent communicators. GATEway students need to have well-developed interpersonal skills as there are many tasks in which they need to interact co-operatively with their peers and diligent and independent learners. The work that GATEway students complete is often integrated with a range of their subjects. As school reports are being finalised over the next couple of weeks, the final decisions for the GATEway class will be determined. Parents who would like more information about the process are more than welcome to contact me.

Melissa Gould-Drakeley

From the Dean of Students

Arrangements for Speech and Awards Night 2014

The venue for Speech and Awards Night is the Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre at Homebush and the proceedings will commence at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9 December 2014. Student performances and the display of works will be held in the Hall of Legends from 6.30pm.

Speech and Awards Night will recognise student achievement in 2014 across the Middle School and Senior School and is compulsory for students in Years 5-12. All Year 5-12 students will be dismissed from school on Tuesday at 12.00 noon in preparation for their attendance at this event. The various bus companies that service the School will **NOT** be providing bus services to transport students home once dismissed and parents are encouraged to make suitable alternate transport arrangements. After School Care closes on Friday 5 December and will not be an option for student supervision.

School Orchestra, School Choir 5-12, Concert Band 5-12, Preparatory Band and Preparatory Orchestra will depart Cobbitty at 12.30pm for rehearsals at the Sports Centre. Letters will be sent home to those participating performers indicating details of the day. Students will need to bring food and drink for lunch and dinner or money to purchase items from the Kiosk at the venue. Music students are permitted to wear their Sport Uniform for rehearsals but must change into full school uniform.

Student Leadership Team, Award winners and the Drum Corps will travel by coach at 4.30pm. Any award winners not involved in a performance should be at the venue no later than 6.00pm. Parents are reminded that students attending the rehearsal will be remaining at the venue until the conclusion of Speech and Awards Night. No transport will be provided to return students to Cobbitty at the conclusion of the evening.

Students in Years 5-12 are expected at the venue by 7.00pm. All students are to report for roll call in the downstairs vestibule between the display centre and main auditorium. Students should find

the following teachers to have their names marked as present:

Years 5-6:	Mrs S Stewart
Year 7:	Mr P Groves
Year 8:	Mr W Horne
Year 9:	Mrs V Allen
Year 10:	Mr T Clarke
Year 11:	Mr D Baker
Year 12:	Mr J Hordern
Year 13:	Mr P Stevens

Students who are not award winners are encouraged to sit with their parents and must not move around the auditorium during the proceedings.

Parking

The parking area to use is Parking Station P3 off Sarah Durack Avenue. It can be approached by turning into Australia Avenue from Homebush Bay Drive. Then turn left into Sarah Durack Avenue. P3 is a multi-storey carpark on the left, in easy walking distance from the Centre.

Dress for Speech Night

Parents and students are reminded that proper attire for the evening will be full school uniform. Boys are to wear winter uniform including blazers. Girls are to wear summer uniform including blazer. Shoes should be clean and polished.

Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre has advised that large bags will be checked before entry into the Auditorium as part of a renewed security policy. Please be mindful that this is a requirement of a public venue and not a policy of Macarthur.

Timothy Cartwright

Chaplain's Chat

The Cupboard Was Bare (Almost)

Anglicare's annual Toys n Tucker collection has begun - the Christmas tree is in the Chapel Foyer - but where are the toys and tucker?

This is a sad photo (mind you it was day two so I was delighted to see some items there!). Our school collection continues throughout November. Last year we filled a small truck!... maybe with our generosity we can add to that and help to share the joy of Christmas with people in our own city who are in need.

Please continue to bring in new toys (unwrapped) and non-perishable food items (especially items that would add to a Christmas hamper).

For more information see www.toysntucker.org.au or www.anglicare.org.au



3Union comes to Macarthur

Creative Arts Ministries (CRAM) came back to Macarthur last week with the outreach band 3Union. Through their engaging music three brothers from Indiana (USA) brought a lively and heart felt gospel message to our students. The students loved the variety of Chapel and many responded in a personal way to opening up to knowing Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.



Bulletin Bible Verse

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4.6)

We all get anxious from time to time and we often need help! Bringing our anxieties

to Jesus and praying with thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to pause and begin to see things from God's perspective.

Reverend David Hayman

Community Chat

Talk Back Thursday continues to meet every week in the Café meeting room. The group has recently decided to support some of the work Ruth Lesmana from Global Arms Inc is doing on the Thailand Burma border where she is working empowering women and girls at risk. TBT has donated funds to support a project designed and initiated by Ruth. Ruth, amongst many other jobs is running sewing classes for these women. The outcome is to equip these women and girls with a skill that may transform their lives, a skill that will allow them to eventually earn a living for their families. The group is at present sewing Christmas decorations etc for TBT to sell at a stall here at Macarthur.

Please support these stalls. The stalls will be held on Wednesday 3 December and Monday 8 December. You will receive an email with the location and stall times. The stall will be held coinciding with the T-2 Concert and also the K-4 Presentation Assembly. Funds generated at these stalls will be redirected back to the project.

The Women at Macarthur (W@M) recently hosted a pink Ribbon Tapas Night at Bistro Calavia in Camden. The night generated much-needed funds for the Cancer Council. It was great to see fifty women coming together from the School community to support such a worthy organisation. A special thank you to Maralyn Young from Breast Aware Australia for educating us all on the importance of breast screening/examination. Thank you to all who assisted with the organisation and nights formalities.

The Men at Macarthur (M@M) continue to host the M@M monthly BBQ breakfasts. This event has certainly grown in popularity.

It is good seeing staff, parents and students coming together for these events. The M@M would like to host a Men's Health Night in 2015. If you have any skills in this area and would like to assist with this event please contact me. So often women's health issues are discussed but unfortunately it is not so common for our men folk.

Speech Night 2014 is nearly upon us! The Parents and Friends will once again be running buses to transport people to and from the venue. You should have all received a slip with information along with a booking form regarding these buses. Please return it before the due date. Seats are limited and do tend to book out quickly so get in early! There are extra slips located around the School if you did not receive one or have misplaced yours.

It is also at this time I ask for support with funding for our Speech and Award Night prizes. If you would like to assist in this way please contact me.

Community

All who have so generously donated time helping at Macarthur during this year should have received an emailed invitation to a Volunteers Morning Tea. The morning tea will be held on Thursday 23 November in the Cranmer Room. The RSVP to this event is due by Thursday 20 November. If you did not receive the invitation but have assisted throughout the year I personally would like to invite you to the morning tea. As this list is compiled with the assistance of many, sometimes a person is missed from the invitation list. This invitation is open to all of our much-appreciated volunteers.

If you would like any further information about M@M or W@M or being involved with the Annual Fundraising Dinner please contact Sharon Pascoe-Thomas on 4629-6207 or spascoethomas@macarthur.nsw.edu.au

Steer Competitions

UniSteer 2014

In the recent competition Macarthur finished second overall from sixteen schools. We were only one point behind the winners, Bede Polding College.

Our points were made up from the following:

Second in Beef Appraisal(Junior and Senior)

Third in Junior Judging (Junior)

Fourth in Junior Judging (Senior)

Fourth in Carcass

Fourth in Junior and Senior parader

Fifth in Best Presented Steer

Sixth in Individual Led Class

Sixth in Herdsman

Highly commended in weight gain

All students should be congratulated on their efforts with “Brigalow” the steer.

Upper Hunter Beef Bonaza

Six students Sean McIntosh, Abbie Jenkins, Richard Cartwright, Jack Jansen, Tahlia Darby and Rebecca Mortier recently travelled to Scone for this event where they competed with four steers. The results were as follows:

Steers “Big Red” Highly Commended on the hoof

“Big Red” fifth on the hook

“Splash” twelfth on the hook

“Mighty” eighth on the hook

Five out of the six students made the semi-final of their paraders competition with a competition field of around 160 students.

Abbie Jenkins made the final of her paraders competition again with a field of 160 students.

Thanks to the suppliers of our steers Mick and Maureen Rawsthorn (Camden) and Alan Anderson (Crookwell)



Student Achievements

Callum Masjuk (Year 9): After six years of training, competing in Australia and overseas winning eleven World Titles over that time, Callum has achieved an adult Black Belt in Kempo Martial Arts. Callum is committed to the sport and is now looking at attaining the belts above black in Kempo and is aiming to attain Black Belts in other forms of martial arts. Callum will also be heading to Breckenridge Colorado USA on 10 December for eight weeks to train and compete in various snowboarding competitions. His main passion is Half Pipe but he will also race in Boardercross events.

Nicholas Masjuk (Year 13): Nicholas will also be heading to Breckenridge to train on 10 December but with his HSC behind him he will be staying until May 2015. He will be concentrating on Boardercross and Grand Slalom and will be competing in events all over the USA and Canada over that time. Nicholas has also attained a full sponsorship with Meme Snowboards which will help him in his endeavour to qualify for the World Junior Championships next year. Meme will be providing him with all the equipment he requires and he will also trial new equipment for them.

Term Dates 2015

Summer Term

Camp Week Years 10 and 12

Monday 26 January to Friday 30 January

Camp Week Years 7, 8, 9 and 11

Tuesday 27 January to Friday 30 January

Student Lessons T-6

Tuesday 27 January to Thursday 2 April

Student Lessons Years 7-12

Monday 2 February to Thursday 2 April

Autumn Term

Student Lessons

Monday 20 April to Friday 26 June

Winter Term

Student Lessons

Monday 20 July to Friday 18 September

Spring Term

Year 12 (2015)

Seminar and Year 12 Consultation Week

Tuesday 6 October to Friday 9 October

Student Lessons T-4

Tuesday 6 October to Monday 7 December

Student Lessons Year 5-6

Tuesday 6 October to Tuesday 8 December

T-6 Speech Day Awards

Monday 7 December

Speech and Awards Night

Tuesday 8 December

Is it Really the End of the Year?

It is hard to believe that there are only a matter of weeks left of this school year. As I look around at the boys and girls and how much they have grown and matured over the year it is quite remarkable. I look forward to the end of year events where I hope I am able to speak to some of you and reflect on the year.

Head of Junior School Winter Term Morning Tea

Congratulations to the many students who were invited to a special Head of Junior School Morning Tea for working hard over the Winter Term. It is wonderful to be able to reward students who are trying hard to achieve their learning goals.

Important End of Year Dates

Sport Award Evening

Thursday 20 November

Year 2 Campover

Friday & Saturday 28 & 29 November

T-2 Christmas Concert

Wednesday 3 December

in the Gymnasium commencing at 11.30am.

K-4 Presentation Assembly

Monday 10 December

in the Gymnasium commencing at 11.30am.

Daniel McLean from 'Keep Australia Beautiful' presents the Headmaster with our 'Eco Schools' certificate to acknowledge our registration into the programme.



Is that you Mrs Elling?



Year 2 - 'Waste Warriors'

CHESS TOURNAMENT



Ever wondered how popular the game of chess is? Well, here's a statistic you might be interested in.

Two hundred and ten students in seventy teams from Macarthur primary schools entered a one-day tournament held at Campbelltown last week. Two of these teams were ours - Team A - Joshua Ferguson, Rowan Hey, Peter Cruz and Team B - Angus Townsend, Luke Stewart, Kye Newman. Our Year 4 players meet each week in their own time for a social game.

At the regional tournament each team played seven, thirty minute games. This is the first time Macarthur has entered in years. It was a wonderful experience and each student said it was one of the best days they've had at school. The boys held strong positions against many opponents older than themselves. They were placed midway on the leader board. Congratulations on a fine effort boys.

If your child is interested in playing chess at school or you would like to be involved in coaching our teams, please contact me so I can co-ordinate social and training sessions in the new year.

Mrs Hey



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Luke Doria (Year 2)

Luke Doria was the winner of the Christmas in Narellan Writing Competition. Luke received a gift voucher as well as being given the privilege of being able to light the Christmas tree at the event.

The judges felt that Luke's entry encapsulated all things Christmas, being thankful, remembering the true meaning of Christmas and that it is time for family and friends to celebrate and spend valuable time together. Congratulations Luke!



Joel Offord (Year 3)

First Place in the 5km Fisher's Ghost Fun Run on the weekend.

Fantastic effort Joel!

Congratulations to **Keira Henson** (Kindergarten) and **Sakura Murakami** (Year 3) for their outstanding results in the Indonesian Writing Competition. Keira won third place in the Kindergarten Category and Sakura won Highly Commended in the Stage 2 category. What a fantastic achievement by both these students!

Head of Junior School Morning Tea

Congratulations to the following students:

Skylar Ornelas	KH	Dawson Tatarinow	3S
Phoebe Walker	KH	Sakura Murakami	3S
Stephany Cabrera-Yee	KP	Emma Tyson	3W
Alexander Green	KP	Caleb Groves	3W
Ella Johnson	IC	Rowan Hey	4N
Tess Perich	IC	Adam Krvavac	4N
Elizabeth Ha	IR	Rose Jansen	4R
Tiana Wilson	IR	Cheryl Veli	4R
Osian Burge	2H	Aneeka Willis	1R
Harmony Phillips	2H	Pi Suwattanametin	2L
Amelia Bobbyreff	2L		
Jake Endicott-Leone	2L		



SCRUFF VISITS MACARTHUR!



With great energy and fun, Scruff, (a puppet), led a show in T-4 chapel (on 27 October) about the love of our Heavenly Father.

He and Kim (an actual person!) retold the Bible story of Zaccheus and led the T-4 students in song as part of the 'Bert and Benny' play.

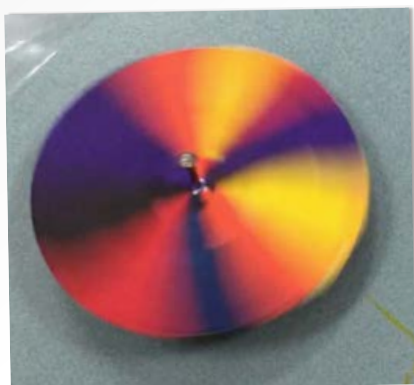
Other characters, including Burt the Bear and a rubber chicken appeared to the delight of the children. The message of God, our Heavenly Father, showing us his redemptive love through Jesus was well received.

What an enjoyable Chapel run by QUIZWORKS!

Rev. Hayman



KINDERGARTEN'S SIZZLING SCIENCE AFTERNOON!



YEAR 2 IS EXHAUSTING..AND LOTS OF FUN!



CONNECTING WITH NATURE
BEFORE WRITING POETRY



OSIAN AND BETHANY STRIKING
A POSE IN DRAMA

Year 2 are having a wonderful time busily getting ready to enter Year 3 in 2015. Our focus this term is on environmental education. We are learning about reusing, recycling, and reducing our waste. Currently students are preparing an advertising campaign to encourage other members of the school community to join them in looking after God's beautiful creation. We have also analysed the waste we produce in the classroom and have a long term science experiment in the school garden investigating how long it takes for various natural and man-made products to decompose.

We are also very excited about our preparations for the Christmas concert. We are practicing every day while learning about the intricacies of drama and acting.

We have continued the Christmas theme in Mathematics. We are learning and practicing mathematical concepts and skills by assisting our teachers in the planning and preparation for our class Christmas party.

Mr Langley and Mrs Ha

Nicholas Stewart, Flynn Williams and Ethan Dobson check out St John's Church in Camden while on the Year 2 Camden history tour in Winter term.



2L student's collected their rubbish from one whole day and classified it into groups. They are discussing how they can reduce the amount of waste they produce.



Rebecca Dunbier and Ella Fin use the strategy of grouping in tens to count a large amount of counters. We counted over 1,300 counters.



YEAR 1 IS FUN!



Year 1 have been putting their scientific minds to work over the past few weeks investigating forces in our unit 'Pushes and Pulls'. Many hands-on activities assisted the students in predicting and testing the movement of toys and everyday objects. We discovered that we could feel water pushing as an air filled container was put into the water trough.

Also, many things can be moved by air pushing including the pin wheels and paper helicopters that we made in class. Much fun was had rolling and sliding objects down a ramp to observe the best shape for movement and we saw friction at work slowing the movement of some objects more than others.

So much learning and fun all happening in Year One!

Mrs Cowper, Mrs Abdoo and Ms Rogers



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YEAR 3?

National Parks

Year 3 students spent an interesting morning with Mr. Siemon from the National Botanic Garden on Thursday 6 November. Mr. Siemon came to inform us about all the exciting careers in National Parks. He presented a slide show, which had us asking for more. The best thing about the visit was the app he introduced to us where you can supply information on the whereabouts of cockatoos to assist with research. We can't wait to get involved!

It's Alive

For our 'It's Alive' unit we had to establish if something is dead or alive. The first thing we looked at was a seed. We were all pretty sure it was dead! After all it was not moving, no matter how long we stared at it. Our teachers then provided us with a list of characteristics to measure objects against to determine if they were dead or alive. Our next step was to provide water for our seeds. We did not have to wait long before we saw the changes. See for yourself! Do you think a seed is alive?

Mrs Stassen and Mr Wood



Mr Siemon speaks to Year 3



Year 3 in the Veggie Garden



Year 3 students studying how the state of matter changes when heat is applied.



2014 Drawing to a Close

As the year draws to a close it is a good time to reflect on the many wonderful achievements and opportunities that students have had through the year and in what ways students in the Middle School can improve and extend themselves in the new year. However, there are still a few fun activities and achievements to acknowledge in this the final Bulletin for 2014.

Year 9 Luna Park Excursion

On Friday 7 November Year 9 attended a Mathematics excursion to Luna Park. The purpose of the trip was to show Mathematics in a variety of contexts and applications. Students were able to enjoy both the fun activities at Luna Park as well as reinforce some concepts covering a range of mathematical topics. The day turned out to be a successful learning experience for all students.



String and Band Performance

Year 4, 5 and 6 students demonstrated what they have been learning through the year at the Annual String and Band Performance evening on Monday 10 November.



Year 5 and 6 Bathurst Excursion

On Thursday 13 and Friday 14 November Year 5 and 6 will be visiting Bathurst and Hill End to compliment the studies of the Gold Rush era through this term.

As we approach the holidays let me take this opportunity to congratulate all the students on their achievements through the year. There have been many wonderful accomplishments individually and collectively by students in the Middle School. I would also like to thank the Student Leaders in Year 6 and the Middle School Prefects in Year 9 for their efforts and tireless service through 2014. They have been outstanding examples. May the holidays be a wonderful time with family and friends. I look forward to seeing each of the students in the new year.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



The NASSA Junior Cricket team played in a NASSA Gala day on Thursday 30 October. The team went through undefeated and ended up winning the whole day.



Grace Tyson on her horse Noddy at the Nationals in September holidays.



Congratulations *Alex Frankum* awarded best bowler of the Match with 11 for 6 runs.



OUTSTANDING..... *Madison Baker* who was Vice Captain of the team when she played in the NSW PSSA Softball Championships in September, the CIS team placed second overall.

MORE... STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Fishers Ghost Fun Run

Congratulations to Joel Offord, Grace Murphy, Matilda Offord, Rhys Jensen, Thomas Noakes and Dylan Offord who competed in the 5km Fishers Ghost Fun Run on Sunday 9 November.

Joel Offord - First Boys

Grace Murphy - Second Girls 16-19 Years

Rhys Jensen - Third Boys 10-12 years

Matilda Offord - First Female in 5km event.



Students receiving Awards at a Stage 3 Assembly.



Elyssa, Jasmine and Jared receiving their Maths Olympiad trophies.



Head of School Morning Tea, recognising those working hard toward the goals.



TOP 10 TIPS FOR MANAGING STUDENTS WITH TECHNOLOGY

1. Model Good Technology Behaviour

Parents are the number one role model for students. If you are always on your phone, ipad or computer, even if it's for work, you are sending the message that this is appropriate. Make sure you regularly take time to "unplug" and demonstrate that it's more important to engage with people than technology. For example turn off your phone when you are having family time (even for a short burst).

2. Try to Understand the Technology Your Child is Using and Why

Some students will happily use the technology available to help them with their homework without getting distracted. Many will easily become distracted by, or will prioritise, social media, online gaming, apps related to their interests, YouTube etc. To help your child manage these distractions it is useful to spend time with them understanding what they are using technology for and why. Developing this understanding will help you set limits which are reasonable to both parties.

3. Set Clear Limits in Relation to Technology Time

Parents need to decide what they consider to be a reasonable amount of technology time per day and per week. As mentioned above, understanding why and how your child is using technology will inform this decision. What works for each family will be different, but options include: no technology before school, technology for a particular amount of time each day, electronic games on the weekend only. It's vital to be consistent with whichever system you choose for it to work well.

4. Monitor Technology Use

If you aren't sure what your child is doing when they are on the computer (homework or something else), then move the computer to where you can monitor what they are doing. This can be difficult depending on your family and space available. If it's not possible to move the child/computer, consider doing quiet activities in the space they are using, such as reading or ironing, to monitor their use.

5. Establish 'Screen Free' Systems

Make sure technology doesn't dictate your home and family life. Establish "screen free" spaces eg. the kitchen and dining table. Perhaps have a screen free day on the weekend? This encourages the whole family into more active pursuits and positive interactions.

6. Centralise Storage of Handheld Devices

Have a rule that all handheld devices are stored in the one place (along with their chargers) so when it's not an approved technology time, the device is away and not causing a distraction.

7. Use Technology Time as a Reward

Show that you can be reasonable and flexible. If your child has done all their schoolwork and has enjoyed other activities/completed chores etc. there is no reason why some additional screen time can't be used as an occasional reward. However, mixing up the rewards with other activities will benefit the whole family.

8. Provide Lots of Opportunities for Physical Activity and Socialising

Time which used to be spent in physical activity or more creative leisure pursuits is now often spent on technology. Providing opportunities for students to participate in meaningful and enjoyable activities away from technology helps them to find other interests and connect with people. Options include organised sports, playing music, learning a new skill etc.

9. Use Parental Controls to Block Particular Sites

Parental controls are useful to block particular websites which have inappropriate content or which your child gets easily distracted by. The Australian Government's CyberSmart program makes various recommendations <http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Parents/About%20the%20technology/Parental%20controls.aspx>

10. Change the WiFi Password

If nothing else works, and your child is constantly on social media or surfing the net, consider changing the WiFi password. Whilst it's an extreme measure it is sometimes useful as a reminder that there are other things that need to be done.

Learn more about how to work effectively at home and manage distractions by working through the units on www.studyskillshandbook.com.au. Our school's access details are:

Username: formasonly

Password: 27results

Spring Term - 2014

Once again it is an extremely busy time of the year in the Senior School at Macarthur. While at some schools this may be a time of winding down, at Macarthur it is the opposite. Each of the Year groups in the Senior School have been involved in a wide variety of activities both in and out of the classroom. Year 10 have been getting used to being a student in the Senior School, have enjoyed their cruise and are gearing up for assessment tasks that form part of their RoSA. Year 11 have been extremely busy this term with Connect (leadership and team building training day), UWS Open Day, Study Skills Day and a First Aid Course held over the last two days. Still to come is the Wet'n'Wild excursion on 28 November and a visit to UNSW and the University of Sydney on the 26 November. Year 12 (2015) have enjoyed the Macarthur Ball on 24 October and are now gearing up for their first HSC assessment tasks in many subjects. Particular congratulation must go to Year 13 as they have now completed their HSC exams and are no doubt looking forward to their Graduation Dinner tonight and the last night ever in uniform at Speech Night on 9 December.



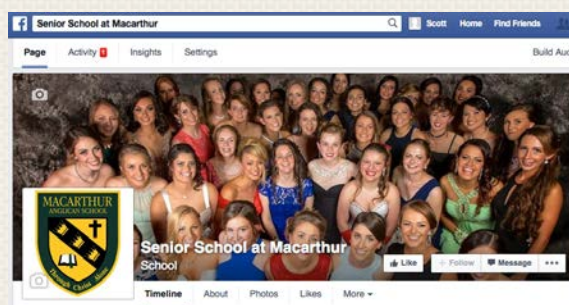
VERONIKA AND ERIK (HUNGARIAN EXCHANGE STUDENTS) ENJOYING THE HARBOUR CRUISE WITH NEW YEAR 10

Studying in the break

As this is the last Bulletin before the end of the year it is important to think about what students should be doing these holidays. The answer to this question depends on what grade you are in. For Year 12 it is important that these holidays are used as a foundation that can be built on next year. In order to retain information taught it is vital that students do a little bit regularly. In English, for example, the workload continues to increase and as such it is imperative that students use this break to read the texts that have been issued. The HSC is extremely competitive and one way to get the edge over students from other schools is to take the time to be up to date and complete additional work. Through doing this I have no doubt the HSC year will be much less stressful. For students in other years spending some time going over notes from this term would be wise.

Senior School at Macarthur

To stay up to date with courses and happening in the Senior School may I remind parents and students to keep tabs on our Senior School Facebook page.



MACARTHUR BALL 2014



YEAR 10 HARBOUR CRUISE



YEAR 11 CONNECT



YEAR 11 - ALL MY OWN WORK

The Board of Studies requires all Year 10 students proceeding to Year 11 to satisfactorily complete the *HSC: All My Own Work* programme as a condition of entry to Year 12 and to satisfactorily complete the HSC. All Year 11 students were given lectures on the programme recently. The programme raises awareness of plagiarism and copyright issues and encourages students to be law-abiding and ethical in their research practices and in production of pieces of work.

Year 11 students will undertake small group sessions in house group under Mrs Low's supervision to familiarise themselves with the material. The course modules have been uploaded onto Moodle and students should spend time reading and familiarising themselves with the content and practising the online questions. At Macarthur we have created our own test, which students are required to complete by 30 November, and the pass mark is 80%. Students who fail to reach 80% will be required to do the test again in their own time under Mrs Low's supervision.

Parents would benefit from looking at the modules to increase their understanding of plagiarism and copyright and what is required of students, not only in their senior years, but when they go on to tertiary education.

Any questions may be directed to Mrs Gould-Drakeley or Mrs Low.

UWS OPEN DAY - YEAR 11



On Thursday 6 November all Year 11 spent the day at the University of Western Sydney, Campbelltown Campus. The day consisted of learning what University is like, participating in lectures and a range of activities.

